

of America

Congressional Record

Proceedings and debates of the 117^{th} congress, first session

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

No. 207

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STANTON).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC, December 1, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GREG STANTON to act as Speaker pro tempore on

NANCY PELOSI. Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

INFLATION IN DAILY LIFE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Bost) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, real wages have decreased 7 out of the past 9 months. The increase in the cost of consumer goods is at a 30-year high. What do these numbers actually mean in your daily life?

You wake up in the morning and you go to make breakfast. You want scrambled eggs? They will be 11.6 percent more expensive. What about bacon? At a 20.2 percent increase on bacon, you

might even take that off the menu. Don't forget your morning cup of coffee that is 5.6 percent more expensive.

You make a mad dash to get the kids ready for school and then out the door. That will be a 4.3 percent increase in the cost of their clothing and a 7.5 percent increase in the cost of their shoes. You have gotten the kids on the bus and now you can go on to work your-

Gas prices are now 51.3 percent higher, so it is going to cost you a lot more to drive to work. Have you been thinking about that new car? You can forget that, prices are up 9.8 percent on new cars. You want to save money and maybe get a used car? Good luck with that because they are up 26.4 percent.

You arrive at work, but you realize you left your lunch at home. The cost of a plate at a nearby diner is up 5.3 percent. On your way home, you stop to pick up your kids to take them to practice. You make sure to tell them to take it easy though and make sure they don't wear out their sports equipment because their sports equipment is up 8 percent.

Now you are home for dinner and those pork chops you are making for dinner are up 15.9 percent. The canned vegetables are up 6.6 percent.

Your long day is finally over. You made it. Time to kick back, relax, watch some TV—wait a minute, the TV last year that you bought for Christmas is up 10.4 percent, and there is no doubt that last Christmas it was down that much.

So what is the difference here? I think it is called the Biden economy. Maybe if people in the administration spent a day in the shoes of the average person, the person that goes to work every day, the person that has to pay these prices that we are talking about, maybe then they would realize that the policies that are being done right now and being put in place right now and have been put in place over the last 10 months is the cause of this, and that they would work with us to get it fixed.

HONORING ROSA PARKS ON THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER AR-REST AND THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTGOMERY BUS BOY-COTT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. Sewell) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American pioneer and one of the greatest heroines of our time, Mrs. Rosa Parks on the 66th anniversary of her arrest in Montgomery, Alabama.

Today, 66 years ago, Rosa Parks took a bold stand against racial discrimination by refusing to give up her seat on a public bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat did more than simply desegregate the bus systems of Montgomery. Her dignified courage inspired a movement that changed our Nation.

Rosa Parks' quiet refusal to surrender her seat to a White passenger on December 1, 1955, sparked a city-wide boycott of the Montgomery bus system that lasted 1 whole year and broke the very will of a city heavily steeped in segregation.

Biographer Douglas Brinkley recounted the powerful moment in his biography of Rosa Parks, he writes:

Are you going to stand up? the driver demanded. Rosa Parks looked straight at him and said, No. Flustered and not quite sure what to do, the bus driver retorted: Well, I'm going to have you arrested. And Rosa Parks sat next to the window, and quietly said: You may do that.

Her soft yet forceful response led to an arrest, a \$10 fine, and the beginning of the most important demonstration in American history. The Montgomery bus boycott stands as a powerful testament of the will of a disenfranchised people to work collectively to achieve extraordinary social change.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

